Kansas City Times
May 14, 1976

Senate Committee Wants Oswald Probe

Washington (AP)—The Senate intelligence committee voted without objection yesterday to recommend a congressional investigation of why Lee Harvey Oswald killed President John F. Kennedy.

Chairman Frank Church (D-Idaho) said the committee voted to turn over its materials on the Nov. 22, 1963, assassination to the proposed new panel to monitor intelligence activities.

In addition, Church said, the committee authorized Sen. Gary Hart (D-Colo.) and Sen. Richard S. Schweiker (R-Pa.), members of a subcommittee, to prepare a written report on their investigation of the performance of the CIA, FBI and other intelligence agencies in connection with the assassination.

The report would be completed by the end of the month but must be approved by the full committee before it is made public, Church said.

The report of the Warren Commission on Kennedy's assassination concluded that Oswald was the sole assassin and that there was no credible evidence that he was part of a foreign conspiracy.

Hart said he had seen no evidence to contradict the Warren Commission's finding that Oswald killed the President. But Hart added, "the remaining unanswered question is why?"

Schweiker said his investigation of the "performance or nonperformance" of the U.S. intelligence agencies in connection with the assassination had turned up "some very interesting questions and some new material."

But Schweicker declined comment when asked if he stood by his previous statement that the Warren report would collapse like a house of cards.

Later, Schweiker said, "I have always questioned the Warren Commission finding about who did it and how it was done."

Schweiker has said in the past that Oswald's connections with both pro- and anti-Cuban groups could provide the key to his motivation.

Disclosures of CIA attempts to kill Cuba's Fidel Castro have prompted speculation that Kennedy's death may have been ordered in retaliation.

Newly released CIA documents acknowledge that the Warren Commission was not told about the plots against Castro but say there is no evidence that the Cuban premier was aware of the agency attempts to kill him.

However an April 1975 memo entitled "What Could Castro Have Known?" states that Castro undoubtedly knew about assassination plots by Cuban exile groups and speculates that some of these plots may have been falsely attributed to the CIA.

The memo also noted that one plot in which the CIA used Mafia figures in an unsuccessful scheme to kill Castro involved an exile leader who previously had been linked with the CIA.

Although the exile leader was not aware that he was involved in a CIA plot his past links to the agency "could have provided a basis for speculation, in Cuba, that CIA . . . was behind it," the memo said.

The memo was among CIA documents released in response to a Freedom of Information suit filed by the American Civil Liberties Union.

The same memo also detailed a 1963 plot involving an agent code-named AM LASH, who is described as "a man highly placed in the Castro government." The memo recognized the possibility that AM LASH was a double agent who told Castro about the plot against his life.

But it concluded that AM LASH did not know he was part of an assassination plot until he was given a ballpoint pen rigged as a hypodermic Nov. 22, 1963—the day that Kennedy was killed.

Summing up, the memo says "one can speculate as to whether or not Castro actually learned of the plans . . . (but) speculation cannot satisfactorily resolve it."

LEE HARVEY OSWALD

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